



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Fort Union National Monument News Release

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Holiday Open House

Watrous, NM: As the holiday season brings family and friends close together, the staff of Fort Union National Monument cordially invites you to enjoy an afternoon at Fort Union National Monument's Holiday Open House. The Open House will occur on Saturday, December 12, 2015 between 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM at the monument's Visitor Center. Join us to learn more about our recently completed project – the "New Mexico Civil War Heritage Project". Taking over 4 years to complete, the project now has every single available record for every soldier that served in the New Mexico regiments during the time of the Civil War. In all, 123,332 documents were downloaded. "In addition to telling its military history, the staff of Fort Union has made it paramount to incorporate the integral success of the fort due to its close connections to the local communities." Said park Superintendent Charles Strickfaden, "here is an excellent opportunity to find more information about your family's history and its deep connection to Fort Union."

The highlight of the Open House will be the 2:30 PM ranger led presentation entitled "*Fort Union and the New Mexico Civil War Heritage Project*". Additional activities will include: Free refreshments, a Gift Basket (courtesy of Western National Parks Association) will be given away in a drawing. As an added measure, all merchandise in the park book store will be given a 15% off discount during the Open House.

Fort Union (1851-1891) was the largest frontier military post and supply center of the southwest. The National Park Service preserves and protects the historic Fort Union and ruins of the Santa Fe Trail. To visit the monument, take Exit 366 off I-25 at Watrous, NM, onto State Hwy. 161, 8 miles. Park hours are 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information and a complete schedule of events, contact Fort Union National

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